

## Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 NEA-10 SAM-01 OMB-01 /079 W

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P 211500Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8818

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 3759

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR GR UK

SUBJ: BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE UNDERSECRETARY VISITS ATHENS

1. BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE OF THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE HATTERSLEY SPENT ABOUT 24 HOURS IN ATHENS MAY 20-21, THE FIRST VISIT TO THE GREEK CAPITAL OF A MINISTERIAL RANK OFFICER FROM THE U.K. SINCE THE JUNTA FELL. HATTERSLEY WAS MET AT THE AIRPORT BY HIS GREEK COUNTERPART DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER STAVROPOULOS, WHO HOSTED A DINNER IN HIS HONOR. HE HAD A NINETY MINUTE TOUR D'HORIZON ON MAY 21 WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS, WITH THE EMPHASIS OF THE MEETING ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. AT THIS MEETING, THE GREEK SIDE CONFIRMED ARRANGEMENTS FOR A MEETING BETWEEN CARAMANLIS AND WILSON AT THE NATO SUMMIT IN BRUSSELS, NOTED THE CARAMANLIS-DEMIREL MEETING AT BRUSSELS WAS NOW IN DOUBT, AND ACCEPTED A BRITISH INVITATION FOR A GREEK MINISTER DEALING WITH ECONOMIC QUESTIONS TO VISIT LONDON IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE CARAMANLIS VISIT TO LONDON DID NOT ARISE.

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2. IN HIS AIRPORT ARRIVAL PRESS CONFERENCE, AND AT A

BACKGROUND FOR BRITISH CORRESPONDENTS AFTER HIS MEETING WITH BITSIOS, HATTERSLEY MADE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME POINTS. HE HAILED THE RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY IN GREECE. HE EXPRESSED BRITISH SYMPATHY FOR GREECE'S DESIRE TO JOIN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, PROVIDING BRITISH ELECTORATE DECIDES THE UK SHOULD REMAIN A MEMBER TWO WEEKS HENCE, WHICH, HE SAID, HE FULLY EXPECTS. HE REITERATED THAT THE LEGAL GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS IS "THE ONE THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO THE PROCLAMATION OF (THE TURKISH CYPRIOT) STATE" WHICH THE UK DOES NOT RECOGNIZE. THE UK REGARDS THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AS THE ESSENTIAL CHANNEL FOR SEEKING A SETTLEMENT IN CYPRUS. HATTERSLEY DEFENDED THE RELEASE OF TURKISH CYPRIOT REFUGEES FROM THE SBA AS HAVING BEEN DETERMINED EXCLUSIVELY BY HUMANITARIAN MOTIVES. ASKED IF HE INTENDED TO EXERT PRESSURE ON ANKARA, WHERE HE WILL ATTEND THE CENTO MEETING, HE RESPONDED: "I THINK THERE ARE A NUMBER OF THINGS WE CAN DO, AND A NUMBER OF INITIATIVES WE CAN TAKE. IT IS UP TO US TO USE THESE POSSIBILITIES. IN ANY CASE, I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD USE THEM FOR THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS."

3. THE ATHENS PRESS WAS NOT PARTICULARLY CAUGHT UP WITH THE VISIT AND SEVERAL HAD DIFFICULTY FOCUSING ON THE REASON FOR IT. AKROPOLIS ASKED: "WHAT IS THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY TO TALK ABOUT IN ATHENS?" AND TO VIMA USED PHRASE FROM HATTERSLEY'S AIRPORT STATEMENT TO HEADLINE ON BACKPAGE: "THE BRITISH DEPUTY MINISTER IS NOT CARRYING ANY PROPOSALS." KUBISCH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Concepts:** MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Film Number:** D750180-1059  
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**To:** STATE  
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